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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/993,018	11/19/2001	Shigeki Mori	CANO:040	6521
ROSSI & ASSOCIATES P.O. Box 826 Ashburn, VA 20146-0826			EXAMINER JONES, HEATHER RAE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2621	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/993,018

Applicant(s)

MORI ET AL.

Examiner

Heather R. Jones

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 October 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-59 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31, 33, 34, 36-38, 40, 41, 43-45, 47, 48, 50 and 51 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 52-59 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 November 2001 and 05 October 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed October 5, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The Applicant argues on page 24, lines 20-24 that Honda discloses simultaneously displaying a moving image with an associated still image, but that Honda fails to disclose or suggest displaying identification information, such as a connecting icon, that allows a viewer to recognize that relevancy exists between images recorded by image recording apparatuses, when the detecting device detects presence of relevancy there between. The Examiner respectfully disagrees. Honda discloses in col. 11, lines 20-24 that the date and title can be superimposed on the image and would then therefore display identification information. Furthermore, the viewer recognizes relevancy between the images when the images are displayed together because in digest mode images that were taken simultaneously are displayed at the same time as in Fig. 10, which is described in col. 14, lines 23-45. The claim does not require a connecting icon to be displayed to show relevancy between the images. Therefore, Honda meets the claim limitations and the rejection is maintained.

The Applicant argues on page 24, line 28 - page 25, line 10 that neither Fig. 9 nor any other passage of Honda discloses that the images from the second image source are images developed on a continuous time axis as one scene of an animated image or reading an image from the second image source

associated with an image from the first image source so that reading out of the image from the second image source is started from a leading position of the one scene or a position located at a particular interval before a particular intermediate point on the time axis in the one scene when the image from the second image source associated with the image from the first image source is positioned at the particular intermediate point on the time axis. The Examiner respectfully disagrees. Honda discloses in Fig. 9 two time lines. The top time line corresponds to the still image capturing time (the first image source is positioned at the particular intermediate point on the time axis). The bottom time line corresponds to the moving image capturing time line (second image source are images developed on a continuous time axis). Furthermore, lines are drawn in Fig. 9 from the top time line to the bottom time line to show the correspondence between the still images taken corresponding to the image in the moving image time line. Therefore, Honda meets the claim limitations and the rejection is maintained.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States

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only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-31, 33, 36-38, 40, 43-45, 47 50, and 51 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Honda et al. (U.S. Patent 6,606,451).

Regarding claim 1, Honda et al. discloses an image display system comprising: an image reproducing apparatus (1) that captures and reproduces images recorded by a plurality of image recording apparatuses and additional information added to the images (Figs. 1, 7, and 10; abstract; col. 2, lines 15-21); a display device (2) that displays each of the reproduced images (Figs. 1 and 10); a detecting device (11) that detects presence or absence of relevancy between the images recorded by the plurality of image recording apparatuses based on the additional information captured by the plurality of image recording apparatuses for reproduction (col. 12, lines 44-55); and a control device (14) that controls the display device to display identification information that allows a viewer to recognize that relevancy exists between the images recorded by the plurality of image recording apparatuses when the detecting device detects presence of relevancy there between (col. 11, lines 20-24; col. 14, lines 23-45 - the viewer recognizes relevancy between the images when the images are displayed together because in digest mode images that were taken simultaneously are displayed at the same time as in Fig. 10).

Regarding claim 2, Honda et al. discloses all the limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 1 including that the plurality of image recording

apparatuses include at least one still image recording apparatus and at least one animated image recording apparatus (col. 11, lines 20-24; col. 14, lines 23-44).

Regarding claim 3, Honda et al. discloses all the limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 1 including that the image reproducing apparatus (1), the display apparatus (2), the detecting device (11), and the control device (14) are incorporated in a television receiver (Fig. 1; col. 10, lines 42-49).

Regarding claim 4, Honda et al. discloses all the limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 1 including that the additional information includes date and time information indicative of dates and times at which the images were recorded (Fig. 7), and wherein based on the date and time information, the detecting device (11) detects, as the related images, those of the images recorded by the plurality of image recording apparatuses for which a time difference between the date and time information is within a predetermined range (Fig. 9; col. 13, lines 17-24).

Regarding claim 5, Honda et al. discloses all the limitations as previously discussed with respect to claims 1 and 2 including that the animated image recording apparatus continuously records animated images while adding date and time information indicative of a time period between start and end of recording of the animated images, to the animated images as the additional information, the still image recording apparatus records still images while adding date and time information indicative of dates and times at which the still images were recorded, to the still images as the additional information, and the detecting

device (11) detects at least one of the still images having added thereto the date and time information which is contained in a time period indicated by the date and time information from the animated image recording apparatus, as at least one image having relevancy to at least one animated image recorded within the time period indicated by the date and time information from the animated image recording apparatus (Fig. 7; col. 4, lines 53-65; col. 7, lines 60-62; col. 10, lines 3-8).

Regarding claim 6, Honda et al. discloses all the limitations as previously discussed with respect to claims 1, 2, and 5 including that the control device controls the display device to display a related image display screen for allowing the viewer to recognize related images which are detected to have relevancy therebetween when the viewer has confirmed the identification information, and wherein the related image display screen (2) displays the time period indicated by the date and time information from the animated image recording apparatus and at least one thumbnail image of the still image recorded by the still image recording apparatus within the time period indicated by the date and time information from the animated image recording apparatus, in a manner such that the time period and the thumbnail image are associated with each other (Figs. 9 and 10; col. 14, lines 23-45).

Regarding claim 7, Honda et al. discloses all the limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 1, including that the control device controls the display device to display a related image display screen for allowing the viewer to

recognize related images which are detected to have relevancy therebetween, and wherein the image display system further comprises connecting device connectible to the plurality of image recording apparatuses (the image reproducing apparatus connects to the image recording apparatuses via the internal connections to the recordable mediums), and a selecting device (11 and 14) that selects display of the related image display screen when the plurality of image recording apparatuses are connected to the connecting device (col. 12, lines 44-55; col. 11, lines 20-24).

Regarding claim 8, Honda et al. discloses all the limitations as previously discussed with respect to claims 1 and 7 including that the reproducing apparatus reproduces at least one image recorded by one of the plurality of image recording apparatuses when the one image recording apparatus is connected to the connecting device (Figs. 10; col. 14, lines 23-45).

Regarding claim 9, Honda et al. discloses all the limitations as previously discussed with respect to claims 1 and 7 including that the plurality of image recording apparatuses include at least one still image recording apparatus that records still images in a portable recording medium, and at least one animated image recording and reproducing apparatus that records animated images in a recording medium and reproduces the animated images recorded in the recording medium, and the connecting device (the image reproducing apparatus connects to the image recording apparatuses via the internal connections to the recordable mediums) includes an installing device that installs therein the

portable recording medium from the at least one still image recording apparatus in a manner such that the images recorded in the portable recording medium can be read out, and an animated image recording and reproducing apparatus connecting device that connects to the at least one animated image recording and reproducing apparatus in a manner such that images reproduced from the recording medium in the animated image recording and reproducing apparatus can be captured (Fig. 7; col. 4, lines 53-65; col. 7, lines 60-62; col. 10, lines 3-8).

Regarding claims **10-17**, grounds for rejecting claims 1, 2, and 4-9 apply for claims 10-17 in their entireties.

Regarding claims **18-25**, these are method claims corresponding to the apparatus claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7-9. Therefore, claims 18-25 are analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7-9.

Regarding claims **26-30**, these are medium claims corresponding to the apparatus claims 1, 2, 4, and 5. Therefore, claims 26-30 are analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7-9.

Regarding claim **31**, Honda et al. discloses a digital television apparatus comprising: a connecting device that connects to a plurality of image sources including at least a first image source (still image recorder) and a second image source (animated image recorder) (the image reproducing apparatus connects to the image recording apparatuses via the internal connections to the recordable mediums), in a manner being identifiable from each other, the plurality of image sources supplying images and additional information added thereto; an obtaining

device (25 and 35) that obtains additional information added to the images from the plurality of image sources (col. 10, lines 57-62; col. 11, lines 4-13); a searching device (11) that searches the additional information obtained from the second image source of the plurality of image sources using additional information obtained from the first image source (col. 12, lines 44-55); a storage device that records results of the searching (20) (col. 11; lines 41-46); a readout device that reads out at least one image from the second source which is associated with at least one image from the first image source based on the recorded results of the searching while the at least one image from the first image source is being displayed (col. 11, lines 20-24); and a control device (14) that displays at least one image read out from the second image source (Fig. 10; col. 11, lines 20-24), wherein the additional information from the first and second image sources includes photographing date and time data, and wherein images from the second image source are images developed on a continuous time axis as one scene of an animated image, and wherein the readout device reads an image from the second image source which is associated with an image from the first image source, in a manner such that reading-out of the image from the second image source is started from a leading position of the one scene or position located a particular interval before a particular intermediate point on the time axis in one scene when the image from the second image source associated with the image from the first image source is positioned at the particular intermediate point on the time axis (Fig. 9 - Honda discloses in Fig. 9

two time lines. The top time line corresponds to the still image capturing time (the first image source is positioned at the particular intermediate point on the time axis). The bottom time line corresponds to the moving image capturing time line (second image source are images developed on a continuous time axis). Furthermore, lines are drawn in Fig. 9 from the top time line to the bottom time line to show the correspondence between the still images taken corresponding to the image in the moving image time line.).

Regarding claim **33**, Honda et al. discloses all the limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 31 including that the searching device starts searching when the second image source is connected to the connecting device while at least one image from the first image source is being displayed (Fig. 6).

Regarding claim **36**, Honda et al. discloses all the limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 31 including that the first image source comprises a device that supplies animated images, and wherein when an image from the second image source associated with an animated image from the first image source is a still image, said control device displays the image from the second image source associated with the animated image from the first image source by synthesizing the image from the second image source associated with the animated image from the first image source on a part of a display screen in which the animated image reproduced from the first image source is displayed, for a predetermined time period (Figs. 7, 9, and 10; col. 4, lines 53-65; col. 7, lines 60-62; col. 10, lines 3-8).

Regarding claim **37**, Honda et al. discloses all the limitations as previously discussed with respect to claims 31 and 36 including that the control device displays the image from the second image source in a manner such that with a particular direction of the display screen set as a time axis, a position in the display screen where the image from the second image source is displayed is continuously moved in unison with display of the image from the first image source, from one end to another end of the display screen (Figs. 7, 9, and 10; col. 4, lines 53-65; col. 7, lines 60-62; col. 10, lines 3-8).

Regarding claims **38, 40, 43, and 44**, these are method claims corresponding to the apparatus claims 31, 33, 36, and 37. Therefore, claims 38, 40, 43, and 44 are analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claims 31, 33, 36, and 37.

Regarding claims **45, 47, 50, and 51**, these are medium claims corresponding to the apparatus claims 31, 33, 36, and 37. Therefore, claims 45, 47, 50, and 51 are analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claims 31, 33, 36, and 37.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 34, 41, and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda et al. as applied to claim 31 above.

Regarding claim **34**, Honda et al. discloses all the limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 31, but fails to disclose that the additional information from the first and second image sources includes photographing location data. Official Notice is taken that it is well known to record photographing location data along with the time and date of the image. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have recorded location data along with time and date data with the image in order for the user to easily recall the location of the image if it is unclear from the picture.

Regarding claim **41**, this is a method claim corresponding to the apparatus claim 34. Therefore, claim 41 is analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claim 34.

Regarding claims **48**, this is a medium claim corresponding to the apparatus claim 34. Therefore, claim 48 is analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claim 34.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 52-59 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest an image display device system wherein the identification information includes a connecting icon that connects a plurality of device icons corresponding to respective ones of the plurality of image recording apparatuses, and the control device controls the display device to display the images recorded by one of the plurality of image recording apparatuses that corresponds to one of the plurality of icons when the one icon of the plurality of icon is selected by the viewer, and controls the display device to simultaneously display the images recorded by the plurality of image recording apparatuses when the connecting icon is selected by the viewer (claims 52, 54, 56, and 58 – claims 53, 55, 57, and 59 depend from claims 52, 54, 56, and 58 respectively).

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Heather R. Jones whose telephone number is 571-272-7368. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Thurs.: 7:00 am - 4:30 pm, and every other Fri.: 7:00 am - 3:30 pm.

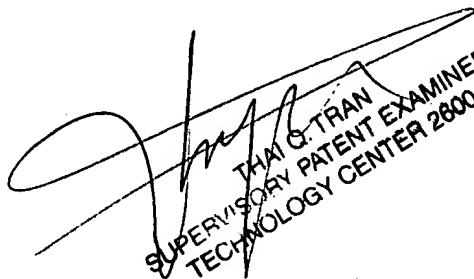
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Heather R Jones
Examiner
Art Unit 2621

HRJ
December 18, 2006


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